My Hiding Place
Psalm 31:19-20

Introduction:
A. Today, more than ever, people need a place to refresh themselves, just recharge the batteries, so to speak.
B. Our pursuit of the American dream has created a stressful life style.
C. Without some form of relief, people become ill and unable to cope with life’s problems.
D. Do you need a place to recharge?
Where Is it?
E. The Psalmists says that his hiding place rested in his relationship with Jesus.
F. His relationship with Jesus was:

I. A Place of Safety. Where:
A. We are safe from the world’s harm.
Psalm 91:10
B. The angels of God have charge over you.
C. Jesus Christ protects you.
D. Jesus will melt away your fears.
E. People who fear God live without fear. Proverbs 1:33

II. A Place of Security. Where:
A. The Lord is my shield. Psalm 91:5

B. The Lord gives me blissful sleep.
Proverbs 3:24
C. The Lord is my helper. Hebrews 13:6
D. The Lord is my strength.
E. The Lord is my victory, Isaiah 41:1

III. A Place of Serenity. Where:
A. Jesus has removed the barrier between believers and himself. Isa. 6:7
B. Jesus has completed God’s law. Col 2:14
C. Jesus has made the sacrifice for my sin.
D. Jesus has blessed me with a peaceful resolve.
E. Jesus is my peace.

IV. A Place of Secrecy. Where:
A. God hears and answers my prayer.
B. God welcomes me in Jesus.
C. God forgives my confessed sins.
D. God is waiting to fellowship with me.
E. God teaches me.

Conclusion:
A. Do you have a hiding place?
B. Where do you find relief?
C. Jesus is the only hiding place.
THE FINISHED WORK OF CHRIST
John 19:26-30; Hebrews 10:11-20

INTRODUCTION:
1. Does it seem strange to you to celebrate a death? The only time the Bible records Jesus as singing was on the night of his death. He was not singing because he looked forward with joy to the suffering and death but because of what would be accomplished by it.
2. Two truths emerge here to help us understand the saving work of Christ for us.

I. JESUS WAS COMPLETELY HUMAN. John 19:28
   A. He must be human if he was to be our perfect Savior. His deity was essential; but so was his humanity. Why? Because if he was to save us he must enter every way into the human experience.
   B. He must be able to fulfill God’s will perfectly.
      The only person every totally committed to the will of God. Hebrews 10:5-9
   C. He must be able to overcome temptation to sin.
      1. He was victorious where we have failed. Heb. 4:15
      2. He was the perfect offering for us. “... without spot and blemish ...”
      D. He must be able to offer himself as a sacrifice for sin in the experience of death.
         – Not in living for us, but in dying for the penalty of our sins that he atoned for them. Had to be human to do that.

II. JESUS MADE A COMPLETELY ADEQUATE SACRIFICE FOR US. John 19:30  Heb: 10: 11-18
   A. The sacrifices offered by priests at the tabernacle and temple had never been adequate to take away sin. Heb. 10:11
      1. They offered repeatedly the same sacrifices. Illus: “He did the same thing last year.”
   3. The people knew this. Their sins not taken away; the guilt remained. What purpose, then of the offerings? To point them to the Messiah who would make the sufficient sacrifice. Galatians 3:24
      B. Jesus’s one sacrifice was sufficient.
      Heb. 10:12
      1. He offered one sacrifice and repeatedly; once was enough.
      b. He does not stand, an incomplete salvation. He sits at God’s right hand, His sacrificial work on earth finished.
      c. Where was this sacrifice made? Not in heaven, but on the cross. Galatians 3:13
         ...He did not carry his blood into heaven; God saw the travail (agony) of his soul and Isaiah 53:10-11
         ...He did not have to cleanse heaven for us; he had to cleanse us for heaven
   2. What did his sacrifice accomplish for us?
      a. He perfected us. vs.14.
         Not made sinless but prepared us to enter into God’s presence.
      b. He sanctified us vs. 14.
      c. Set us apart to belong to God for his holy purposes.
      vs.16. Heart changed by faith... nature transformed.
      d. He removed our sins vs. 17. They do not stand against us to condemn anymore; purified from sin and guilt.
         (So, no other sacrifice is needed vs. 18)
      e. He opened the way into God’s presence for us. The barrier of sin has been removed by the death of Christ. Vs.19,20. Illus: Sign on Center Street: “Closed to thru traffic.” The sign will be removed when the work is finished and the street is open. So, the road from man to God is completed and open to traffic.
         ...What happened in the temple to indicate that the sacrifices there were over (superseded by death of Christ)? Matthew 27:51. Could the priests hear the tearing of the veil? Did they see it? Torn from top to bottom; God did it! How could they miss the meaning of it? Perhaps some did not. Acts 6:7

CONCLUSION:
His work of sacrifice is finished. He will never die for us again. Heb. 9:27,28  You don’t need to add anything to it. Your acceptance with God does not depend upon your performance, but upon Christ’s performance for you. You can’t add anything to it. “All our righteousnesses are as filthy rags in his sight.” Even any “righteous” work we might do. So, quit trying to add anything to it and accept the finished work of Christ for you – and rest in that. How? By receiving him in faith as Lord and Savior.
I MUST TELL JESUS
Matt 14:12 (1-14)

INTRODUCTION:
It was the disciples of John the Baptist who went and told Jesus about the murder of their Master. What a man was this forerunner of the Saviour. Let young men devote themselves to the study of the right kind of men. Let them see Godly character and integrity resting upon worthy men gracefully, as some beautifully fitted garment - such was John the Baptist - Jesus said, "Not a greater than John the Baptist etc." John the Baptist had convictions & stood by them without compromise and without betraying them under any pressure. His message meaning murder was "VS. 4 Give story. Now let us consider some of the occasions in, which we should go to Jesus and tell Him what is in our hearts - I MUST TELL JESUS

I. WHEN THE DAY OF SORROW COMES.

1. John's disciples told Jesus when their day of blinding, maddening, overpowering sorrow, came

   a. When the day of tears come - day of testing and tribulations, no matter how expressed - tell it to Jesus.

   b. How sad a mistake if we refrain from telling Him - because He does care - and He can assure us, and make it all work for our good.

2. In its final analysis, personal religion comes back to our relationship to Christ.

   a. He comes calling us in sweeter words than ever came from a mother's lips - "Come unto me," "I am the Lord, I change not - I'll never leave."

   b. Whatever form that sorrow - takes tell it to Jesus and ask Him to manage it for you.

   c. If it be in the form of sickness (short or long) or the form of death - sudden or expected - or the form of trouble - personal, family, employment whatever - TELL IT TO JESUS.

II. WHEN THE DAY OF SUCCESS COMES.

1. If anybody needs to "talk to Jesus & get His counsel - it is a man who is prosperous.

   a. They need to tell Jesus - "I need Thee. I need Thy counsel - Thy light - Thy leading"

   b. Deacon passed a note to pastor - "Special prayers are asked for a young man who has come into possession of much property. He is in great danger now. If that request was appropriate.

   c. Jesus told us what deceitfulness of riches would do - choke out the word etc. Matt. 13:22

2. Apostle Paul was given a "thorn in the flesh"

   a. I don't know just what the thorn was but I do know Paul talked to Jesus about it.

   b. He prayed three times for its removal and then submitted to the will of God.

   c. Paul was given the thorn to buffet him because he had been given "abundance of revelation"

III. WHEN THE DAY OF SERVICE COMES.

   1. We are saved to serve - "Go work today etc"

   a. Eph 2:10 - We are 'his workmanship'

   b. Did He create us in Christ Jesus to grumble, grip. and complaint NO? What for then?

   c. "For the purpose of good works; are we doing them?

   2. Let us thank the Lord for a time and place to worship and a time and place to serve.

   a. Our place of worship is 2014 S. Green St.

   b. Our place of service is wherever we are -

CONCLUSION: I MUST TELL JESUS WHEN THE DAY OF HIS SECOND COMING ARRIVES.

1. What we going to tell Him then?

   a. The truth - cannot tell a lie in His presence

   b. Shall we tell Him how thankful we are that He was willing to go to the cross?

   c. And how thankful we are for FREE SALVATION

   d. And do not forget to thank Him for that NEW BODY you'll be wearing then.

2. When the unsaved see Jesus what will you tell Him?

   a. Have any good reason for rejecting Him?

   b. Will you tell Him you found a better plan of salvation?

   c. Will you tell Him you were so good you did not need to be saved?
a. Have any good reason for rejecting Him?
   b. Will you tell Him you found a better plan of salvation?
   c. Will you tell Him you were so good you did not need to be saved?
   d. HONESTLY NOW – DO YOU THINK THE Lord will accept any excuse THEN!?? WHAT ABOUT NOW? NO! He will not. “He that comes to me I will in no wise cast out” – so come here and now.

George Crawford Home in Glory

MORE THAN BELIEF
I Cor. 15:3-8

I am not going to try to defend a theory regarding the resurrection of Christ because it is a fact, not a theory. I am not even going to try to convince you that He rose from the grave because I believe everyone of you believe that He did. However, just believing it as a fact is not sufficient. Many will die and go to hell believing in the resurrection, One must do more than just believe, one must act upon that belief.

I. Recognize The Reason.
   A. Was there a reason for Jesus to suffer, die and rise again?
      1. Was it an unfortunate chain of events?
      2. Was it a mistake?
      3. Was it because He deserved to die?
      4. Was the resurrection for the purpose of establishing a religious holiday?
   B. It was to fulfill Scripture. Validate the Word of God.
      C. It was to validate the word of Jesus. Mt. 17:23 Also “As Jonah was three days in the belly of the whale… Heart of the earth.”
   D. The underlying reason was to provide a sacrifice for sinners and to defeat death and the grave.
      1. Sin holds sinful men in bondage.
      2. Jesus broke the bonds of sin.
   E. He rose so that He might be the intercessor for sinful men.

II. Respond To The Reality.
   A. The reality is that if Jesus had not died and rose again there would be no redemption for sinful mankind.

1. All would die in their sin and forever be doomed in hell.
2. What he did, he did for you and me.

B. How should we respond to this reality?
   1. By accepting Him as our personal Lord and Savior.
   2. By allowing Him to live and reign in our lives.
   3. By worshiping Him who has done so much for us.
   4. By being faithful to Him who loves us.

C. To believe is not enough. One must respond, take action, resulting from belief.

II. Rejoice In-The Results.
   A. When one has responded to the reality of the resurrection, he can then rejoice in the results.
      1. Redemption and eternal life. Jesus died for our transgressions and was raised for our justification.
      2. Assurance that we will also rise again. John. 6:39, I Co. 6:14
   B. Those who respond to the reality can rejoice in total victory. I Cor. 15:55-57

Can you truly rejoice because of the death, burial and resurrection of Christ? Or are you only a believer in the reality of the resurrection? You need more than belief, you need hope.

Joe Stevens Houston, Texas

NEW LIFE FROM OLD WELLS
GENESIS 26:12-18

INTRODUCTION:
I. These verses tell us about some very meaningful events in the life of Isaac.
II. Vs. 12-14 tell us how God blessed Isaac.
III. Vs. 15-17 reveal the development of a serious problem in Isaac’s life.
   A. Abimelech was leader of the Philistines - contrary, disagreeable, destructive enemies.
   1. They had stopped up the wells of Abraham - a destructive and criminal act. Wells were hard to find, hard to dig, vital to life.
   B. God had told Isaac, "I give you this land."
   v.3
   C. But Abimelech told Isaac to get out, vs.16-17, AND ISAAC OBEYED, HIS ENEMY!
NEW LIFE FROM OLD WELLS conti.

1. This reveals a problem, a time of defeat, and spiritual drought in Isaac's life.
2. God had blessed, but Isaac was being pushed around by the enemy - ordered to leave land God had said he could have.
   D. Isaac was in trouble, but didn't move far. v.17

IV. Then Isaac did something that brought back freshness and power. v.18
   A. He reopened the old wells his father had dug. He started unstopping wells the enemy had filled.
   B. There in the valley of Gerar, Isaac found new life, new strength from old wells.

II. I BELIEVE THIS IS THE VERY THING MANY OF US NEED TO DO - TO DIG AGAIN SOME WELLS - TO REOPEN SOME OLD WELLS AND FIND NEW LIFE.

   A. No doubt many of you, if honest, would admit living in a spiritual drought.
      1. When did you last win someone to Christ? Speak to someone of Christ? Get excited about new insights in scripture? Have exciting answers to prayer?
      2. Maybe you remember joyful, exciting, interesting spiritual experiences, but they just don't happen any more.
      3. Once you lived on the cutting edge, experiencing God's power and fruitfulness in your life, but now your soul is parched and dry as the desert winds.
      4. Maybe God has blessed you materially, but spiritually you are being pushed around by the enemy. Your life is full of fear, uncertainty, and confusion.
   B. Listen, YOU NEED TO REOPEN SOME OLD WELLS IN YOUR LIFE!

II. REOPEN THE WELL OF SALVATION
   A. Salvation is a well. John 4:14
      1. Yields joy, peace, hope, love, power
      2. God's love fills our hearts, God's forgiveness gives us joy, God's peace quiets our fears, God's Spirit within gives us the literal presence of the power that created the universe! WHAT A WELL!
   B. But to many, salvation is a well that has been sealed over.
      1. The well is still there, but is not springing up to water their lives with love, joy, peace, and power

   2. The enemy has stopped the well, and life is a drought of spiritual dryness and defeat.
   C. In this condition many look for g--- spiritual experiences. A new denomination, new doctrine, new preacher. Something anything new!
   D. What they need is to REOPEN THE WELL OF SALVATION. HOW?
      1. Get God's cleansing from the sin that has clogged the well. Isa. 59: 1-2. Sin stops the flow of love, joy, peace, and power. The well is reopened by confession and commitment. John. 1:9 and Prov. 28:13
      2. Don't just stop sinning - START SERVING! Start doing those things God has commanded and convicted you to do. As you set out to obey, you will find God's power flowing once again in your life. Philippians 2:12-13
      E. Fall in love with Jesus again. Trust and obey Him like you did at the beginning. Reopen the well of salvation, and God will fill your life with joy. Isa. 12:1-3

IV. REOPEN THE WELL OF YOUR MARRIAGE

   A. It's amazing how many times in the Bible marriage is associated with a well.
      1. Abraham's servant found Isaac's wife Rebecca at the well of Nahor.
      2. Jacob and Rachel met at the well of Haran.
      3. Solomon wrote of the joys of marriage in Provo 5:15, "Drink waters out of thine own sistern and running waters out of thine own well."
      4. In Song of Solomon 4:15 Solomon called his wife a well of living waters.
   B. What a rich and wonderful well marriage is!
      1. Designed by God for mutual joy and satisfaction in the closest human relationship
      2. There is nothing more satisfying and beautiful than a happy marriage.
   C. But for many, marriage is a sealed well. The old stream doesn't flow. Too many unforgiven hurts, selfish acts, clog the well. Too little contact with God thru His Word, and worship, and prayer to keep it open. So, the joy is gone, satisfaction is a memory. No refreshing water to quench two thirsty travelers
   D. Is your marriage a stopped well? DON'T LOOK FOR A NEW WELL. THAT'S A TERRIBLE MISTAKE! REOPEN THE WELL OF YOUR MARRIAGE. FIND NEW LIFE IN AN OLD WELL!
NEW LIFE FROM OLD WELLS conti.

1. Fall in love again.
   a. Flirt, get right with God thru confession & commitment
   b. Then confess and ask forgiveness of your mate – clear away the hurts between you.
   c. Then pray, Pray, PRAY for God to change both you and your mate. PRAY for a refreshing renewing reviving of love between you.
   d. Then, by God’s power begin to GIVE TO YOUR MATE.
   GIVE: TIME - to listen, to communicate, to pray together.
   AFFECTION - gifts of tender words and deeds
   GIVE: FORGIVENESS - as God for Christ’s sake has forgiven you.
   ENCOURAGEMENT - Through prayer and praise, build your mate’s self esteem.
   CHANGE YOUR FOCUS ENTIRELY FROM WHAT YOU ARE GETTING TO WHAT YOU ARE GIVING!
The more you give unselfishly out of pure love, the more beautiful and pleasing and wonderful your marriage will become.

V. FINALLY, MANY OF US NEED TO REOPEN THE WELL OF OUR CHURCH.

A. Every church is a well.
   1. All Christians individually are indwelt by the HOLY SPIRIT - called "rivers of living water" in John. 7:38
   2. In the church many rivers flow together in covenant commitment and make a great artesian well, flowing with the love of Christ and the power of God.
   B. Yet, again, for many, the church is a sealed well. Not interesting, stimulating, and exciting like it used to be.
   1. They no longer look forward to going to church, and many days no longer make the effort.
   2. Too many disappointments, hurt feelings, and aggravations. Too many worries, responsibilities, and pressures.
   3. For them, the church is a sealed well. Dry winds of spiritual famine blow across their lives.
   C. Some people think they need a new well! But, they don’t a new church. THEY NEED TO BECOME A NEW CHURCH MEMBER! NEED TO REOPEN THE WELL OF THEIR CHURCH!

1. They must open up their lives once again to the vital flow of the power of the Holy Spirit. To be “Strengthened with might by His Spirit in the inner man.” Eph.3:16 The Holy Spirit is “the power that worketh in us.” E. 3:20. He makes wonderful, amazing things happen in the church!
   a. We must confess our sin of coldness and disinterest
   b. We’ve blamed everybody else, when the real problem is: I’m not committed. I’m not involved. I’m not praying, witnessing, studying, encouraging, giving, or loving.
   c. NOT GETTING ANYTHING OUT OF CHURCH? SIMPLY CHECK: Is your focus on what you’re getting, or on what you are giving?
   2. COME TO CHURCH WITH GIVING ON YOUR MIND! COME TO GIVE: PRAISE, PRAYER, WORSHIP, HONOR, AND SERVICE TO GOD; HELP ENCOURAGEMENT, AND LOVE TO BROTHERS & SISTERS; WITNESS, TESTIMONY, AND URGENT WARNING TO THE LOST
   3. By the grace of God, you are able to give all this and more, II Corinthians 9:8.
   4. Confess your need and ask God to renew and restore the power of His Holy Spirit in your life. I promise you, church will become an interesting, exciting, challenging adventure!

CONCLUSION: Genesis 26 tells us that after Isaac found new life in wells, God blessed him with many NEW WELLS and gave him FRESH VISION AND VICTORY. Read verses 19, and 23-29. Look how the enemy came saying, "Isaac, make agreement with us, that you won’t hurt us!" When Isaac found new life in old wells, God granted him spiritual strength and victory over his enemy. HE WILL DO THE SAME FOR YOU!

ANONYMOUSLY

"Getting Real with Jesus"

Intro. Getting real with Jesus is simply taking our relationship we have with Jesus, wherever we are, to a higher level.
   1. Peter described it as a growing process. I Peter 2:2, "As new born babes desire the sincere milk of the Word that ye may grow thereby."
   2. He also expressed it in II Peter 3:18. "But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ."
3. Paul Pleadeth in Romans 13:14,
"But put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ and make not provision for the flesh, to fulfill the lusts thereof.
Now that's growing! That's getting real with Jesus"
4. Last week we considered Getting Real with Jesus in Our Love for Him.
   A. Matt. 22:37, Jesus told the lawyer, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God, with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind."
   B. Then He told his young church, John 14:15, "If ye love me, keep my commandments."
   C. I John 5:3, for this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous.
   D. "There is a direct connection in loving God and keeping his commandments. This week we will consider getting real with Jesus in our:

I. Fidelity of Doctrine.

1. Fidelity, Faithful to; allegiance; loyalty; devotion.
2. Doctrine - no more or no less than Jesus' teachings.
3. "Remember, He said, If you love me you will keep my commandments. My Doctrine. My teachings.
4. In 2John 1:9-11, The Bible points out anyone who goes too far and does not abide in the teaching of Christ, does not have God: the one who abides in the teaching, he has both the father and the Son. If anyone come to you and does not bring this teaching, do not receive him into your house, and do not give him a greeting: for the one who gives him a greeting participates in his evil deeds.
5. Galatians 1:8-9. Paul told the Galatians, But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed. As we said before, so say I now again, if any man preach any other gospel unto you that that ye have received, let him be accursed.
6. 2 Peter and Jude warn of the dangers of false prophets and heretics. Jude, "certain men crept in unawares, ungodly men, turning the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ into lasciviousness and denying the only Lord God and our Lord Jesus Christ."
7. II Peter 2:1, "But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall

Bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction.

II. Purity of Life:
1. Moral Purity. Christians are to live in obedience to the Word of God and to be exemplary in their conduct and unashamed in their testimony.
2. Immorality is a sure sign of rebellion before the Lord.
3. Paul told the Corinthian Church,
I Cor. 5:1-4.
4. I Cor. 6:9-11
5. I Cor. 6:13, the body is not for fornication but for the Lord.
6. I Cor 6:15, Bodies - members of Christ
7. I Cor. 6:18, Flee fornication.
8. It takes the Love for God and the power of God to say no - "wait".
9. I Cor. 7:8-9, I say therefore to the unmarried and widows, it is good for them if they abide even as I. But if they cannot contain, let them marry: for it is better to marry than to burn. (in their lusts).
10. I Cor. 7:1-2, to avoid fornication let every man have his own wife.
11. even if you have to pay more taxes! Even if you get less retirement.
12. Its really a matter of our Love for Jesus!
13. I John 1:3-10. confess sin - he will forgive.

Robert Streeter

Gone To Glory

REVIVAL

Lord, how can I start a revival
In our little church today?
When old Satan seems to be present,
As I bow my head to pray.
Is it I Lord, that is the hindrance,
That seems to be getting in the way?
If it is so, kind heavenly Father,
Show me the error of my way.
Cleanse my heart with your spirit.
Remove all selfish desire.
Fill my heart with your goodness
This night before I retire.
Open mine own understanding,
Guide my life in your will.
Oh Lord, send a revival,
One the whole church will feel.

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

DO WE REALLY BELIEVE?

We say we believe in God.
Yet, sometimes His promises we doubt.
We say we love Him so.
Yet, sometimes we leave obedience out.

We say we trust His way
Yet, we try to manage problems alone.
We say we believe He has the answers.
But do we always ask Him to guide our home?

If we truly believe in God
Then we must humbly kneel and pray.
Ask forgiveness for our lack of faith,
Get our willful pride out of the way.

Bring us back, our blessed Lord,
To a faith that makes us great and strong.
A faith that allows us to live and love,
A faith that dedicates our life to You alone.

Dovie Brown

Grace Missionary Baptist Church

We want to offer the option of receiving of Sounding Out The Word
Via e-mail. If this is something you would be interested in please send your e-mail address to pastorcarl08@yahoo.com